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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reservation Fliers – Economic Benchmark for Tribes

(Helena) --- Governor Brian Schweitzer unveiled the first ever Reservation Fliers of seven Tribal Nations at the 2006 Tribal Relations Report December 20.

The Fliers provide a detailed picture of the economic and demographic status of the Blackfeet, Crow, Flathead, Fort Belknap, Fort Peck, Northern Cheyenne and Rocky Boy's reservations. Included in the Fliers are nation specific data on annual average wages, employment levels, agricultural statistics, income distributions and much more.

"The Reservation Fliers provide an accurate, measurable economic benchmark for each of the seven Indian reservations," said enrolled Northern Cheyenne member Major Robinson, Economic Development Specialist for the Office of the Governor. "Together (state and tribes), we have produced a tool to attract prospective developers looking to invest in tribal economies."

The Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau spearheaded the effort with active participation from the Montana Department of Commerce's Census and Economic Information Center, the Governor's Office and the support of the Tribal Nations through the State Tribal Economic Development Council.

"Recent enhancements to our data collection, including our ability to identify which businesses are located within the physical boundaries of the reservations made the development possible," said Research and Analysis Bureau Chief Todd Younkin. "We're very pleased with the end result and believe that our customers will be too."

Fliers are available at www.ourfactsyourfuture.org.